Remarks begin on Page 9 of this paper.

Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims replaces all prior versions and listings of claims in the application. All claims currently being amended are shown with deleted text struckthrough and new text underlined. Additionally, the status of each claim is indicated in parenthetical expression following the claim number.

Claims 1-16 remain in this application.

Claims 6-8, 15 and 16 are being amended herein.

Claims 17-20 are being added to correct improper multiple dependent claims 6-8.

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. (Original) A system to facilitate the invocation of a CICS transaction within a server central processing unit via a client central processing unit communicated request, converting said invoked transaction's output to an XML document and the communicating of said XML document to said client central processing unit comprising:

at least one server central processing unit executing CICS under the dispatching control of said server's operating system;

at least one client central processing unit; and

software executing within said server central processing unit which adapts said server to respond to a request communicated from said client central processing unit

by invoking the execution of a CICS transaction within said server, converting said executed transaction's output to an XML document and communicating said XML document to said client central processing unit.

2. (Original) The system of claim 1 further comprising at least one intermediary central processing unit which first receives said transmitted request prior to communicating the request to said server central processing unit.

3. (Original) A computer based method for facilitating the invocation of a CICS transaction within a server central processing unit via a client central processing unit communicated request, converting said invoked transaction's output to an XML document and communicating said XML document to said client central processing unit comprising:

receiving an input request from a client;

converting said received request to a standard format;

identifying said request as an initial or subsequent request by determining the presence or non-presence of a token communicated with the request;

creating data structures required to invoke a CICS transaction if initial request, or present data if responding to a prior request;

initiating a CICS transaction if initial request, or providing data to previously initiated transaction if responding to a prior request;

awaiting and identifying response to said transaction initiation or said data provision from a group of possible responses including the transaction issued an output command, the transaction issued an input command, the transaction ended, or the transaction ended abnormally;

continuing process executing based upon results of said identification;

generating an XML document based upon said continuing process execution; and

waiting for the next communicated input request.

4. (Original) The method of claim 3 wherein the response being identified as the transaction issued an output command further comprises saving the output command and related ADS and ADSD information.

5. (Original) The method of claim 3 wherein the response being identified as the transaction issued an input command further comprises:

storing all output commands and associated data in a buffer to allow for simulation of a 3270 type terminal;

processing all stored output commands;

generating an XML document based upon said output commands which have been normalized; and

communicating said generated XML document to said client central processing unit.

6. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 5 ~~claims 5 and 11~~ wherein said processing further comprises generating an ADS.

7. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 5 ~~claims 5 and 11~~ wherein said processing further comprises merging physical map information into an ADS.

8. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 5 ~~claims 5, 9 and 11~~ wherein said processing further comprises merging the composite ADS into current ADS.

9. (Original) The method of claim 3 wherein the response being identified as the transaction ended abnormally further comprises:

generating an XML document and communicating said XML document describing error to said client central processing unit.

10. (Original) The method of claim 3 wherein the response being identified as the transaction ended further comprises:

having determined the transaction requested immediate execution of a subsequent transaction;

storing all commands and associated data in a buffer; and,

creating data structures and initiating any identified transactions to be immediately invoked.

11. (Original) The method of claim 3 wherein the response being identified as the transaction ended further comprises:

having determined the transaction did not request immediate execution of a subsequent transaction;

storing all output commands and associated data in a buffer to allow for simulation of a 3270 type terminal;

processing all stored output commands;

generating an XML document based upon said output commands which have been normalized; and

communicating said generated XML document to said client central processing unit.

12. (Original) The method of claim 3 wherein said received input request is received in the form of an XML document.

13. (Original) The method of claim 3 wherein said received input request is received in the form of delimited URL data including an HTTP Query string.

14. (Original) The method of claim 3 wherein said identifying, creating, initiating, awaiting and waiting, occurs in an iterative manner.

15. (Currently Amended) An apparatus for facilitating the invocation of a CICS transaction within a server central processing unit via a client communicated central processing

unit request, converting said invoked transaction's output to an XML document and transmitting said XML document to said client central processing unit comprising:

a general purpose computer;

a memory that stores a program which XML-enables CICS transactions; and

a central processing unit that, when executing said program, adapts said general purpose computer to facilitate the invocation of a CICS transaction within said central processing unit based upon a ~~a~~ client communicated central processing unit request, converts said invoked transaction's output to an XML document and transmits said XML document to a client central processing unit.

16. (Currently Amended) An apparatus for facilitating the invocation of a CICS transaction within a server central processing unit via a client communicated central processing unit request, converting said invoked transaction's output to an XML document and transmitting said XML document to said client central processing unit comprising:

a general purpose computer;

a memory that stores a program which XML-enables CICS transactions; and

a central processing unit that, when executing said program, adapts said general purpose computer to facilitate the invocation of a CICS transaction within said central processing unit based upon a client communicated central processing unit request, converts said invoked transaction's output to an XML document and transmits said XML

document to a client central processing unit ~~The apparatus of claim 15~~ wherein said executing program's adaptation of said general purpose computer further comprises:

receiving an input request from a client;

converting said received request to a standardized format;

identifying said request as an initial or subsequent request by determining the presence or non-presence of a token communicated with the request;

creating data structures required to invoke a CICS transaction if initial request, or present data if responding to a prior request;

initiating a CICS transaction if initial request, or providing data to previously initiated transaction if responding to a prior request;

awaiting and identifying response to said transaction initiation or said data provision from a group of possible responses including the transaction issued an output command, the transaction issued an input command, the transaction ended, or the transaction ended abnormally;

continuing process execution based upon results of said identification;

generating an XML document based upon said continuing process execution; and

waiting for the next communicated input request.

17. (New) The method of claim 9 wherein said processing further comprises merging the composite ADS into current ADS.

18. (New) The method of claim 11 wherein said processing further comprises generating an ADS.

19. (New) The method of claim 11 wherein said processing further comprises merging physical map information into an ADS.

20. (New) The method of claim 11 wherein said processing further comprises merging the composite ADS into current ADS.